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option=com\_content&amp;view=article&amp;id=2350%3Aeuropean-parliament-to-investigate-who-in-january-2010&amp;catid=41%3Ahighlighted-news&amp;Itemid=105&amp;lang=en>

## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT TO INVESTIGATE WHO IN JANUARY 2010

The Council of Europe member states are to launch an inquiry in January 2010 on the influence of the pharmaceutical companies on the global swine flu campaign, focussing especially on extent of the pharma's industry's influence on WHO, according to reports in the German media.

www.zeit.de/politik/2009-12/schweinegrippe-europa <a href="http://www.zeit.de/politik/2009-12/schweinegrippe-europa">http://www.zeit.de/politik/2009-12/schweinegrippe-europa</a>>

www.tagesspiegel.de/politik/international/Schweinegrippe-Europarat;art123,2976433 <a href="http://www.tagesspiegel.de/politik/international/Schweinegrippe-Europarat;art123,2976433">http://www.tagesspiegel.de/politik/international/Schweinegrippe-Europarat;art123,2976433</a>>

Wolfgang Wodarg, former SPD member of parliament, and **chairman of the European parliament's health committee**, initiated the inquiry. The motion was passed unanimously by his colleagues in the European parliament's health committee.

Wodarg has criticised the measures taken against the swine flu as "one of the biggest medical scandals of the century."

He said the influence of the the pharamaceutical industry on scientists and government officials has resulted in "millions of healthy people being exposed unnecessarily to the risks of an inadequately tested vaccine."

That even though, the swine flu virus is "much less harmful" than last year's seasonal flu causing "not even a tenth of the usual deaths associated with flu."

Wodarg has also criticised the way **pharmaceutical companies have made gigantic profits at the expense of tax payers.** 

He accused vaccine manufacturers of being willing even to inflict bodily harm" in their pursuit of profits, noting that the adjuvants in the swine flu jab have hardly been tested.

In addition, the vaccine's side effects including dangerous paralysis have not

## been adequately recorded.

Wodarg has said that the role of the WHO and its pandemic emergency declaration in June needs to be the special focus of a European parliamentary inquiry. For the first time the **criteria for a pandemic** was made **not the actual risk** of a diseases but the **number of cases** of the disease.

By classifying the swine flu as pandemic, nations were compelled to implement pandemic plans and also the purchase swine flu vaccines.

Because WHO is not subject to any parliamentary control, Wodarg argued it is necessary for governments to insist on accountability.

What is a pandemic should not be allowed to be defined by an organisation that is clearly under the influence of the pharmaceutical companies that profit from the sales of vaccines accompanying such a pandemic. Many of the decision-makers in WHO have worked for the pharma industry and go back to work in the pharma industry.

The inquiry is also to look at the role of the Paul-Ehrlich and the Robert-Koch Institute in Germany.

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